



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Carl HOFFMASTER *et al.* Art Unit : 3672  
Serial No.: 09/924,961 Examiner : Hoang C. Dang  
Filed : August 8, 2001 Confirmation No.: 1995  
Title : ADVANCED EXPANDABLE REAMING TOOL

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

In response to the final Office Action mailed on May 4, 2004, the Applicant submits the following remarks and respectfully requests reconsideration.

**REMARKS**

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

**Disposition of Claims**

Claims 132-150 are pending in this application. Claim 132 is independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 132.

**Rejections Under §102**

Claims 132-135, 139, 140, and 150 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,853,054 issued to McGarian ("McGarian"). Specifically, the Examiner stated that the cutting elements on one blade (shown in

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Applicant(s): Carl HOFFMASTER et al.

Docket No.

05516/089001

Application No.

09/924,961

Filing Date

08/08/2001

Examiner

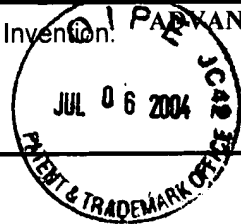
H. C. Dang

Customer No.

22511

Group Art Unit

3672

Invention: **ADVANCED EXPANDABLE REAMING TOOL**

I hereby certify that the following correspondence:

**Reply Under 37 CFR 1.116***(Identify type of correspondence)*

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

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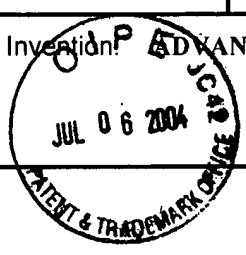
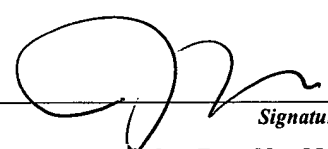
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7-07-04

Ifw AR 3672

<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)</b>					<b>Docket No.</b> 05516/089001				
<b>Applicant(s):</b> Carl HOFFMASTER et al.									
<b>Application No.</b> 09/924,961	<b>Filing Date</b> 08/08/2001	<b>Examiner</b> H. C. Dang	<b>Customer No.</b> 22511	<b>Group Art Unit</b> 3672	<b>Confirmation No.</b> 1995				
<b>Invention:</b> ADVANCED EXPANDABLE REAMING TOOL									
<div></div> <p align="center"><b>COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</b></p> <p>Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.</p> <p>The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.</p>									
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>									
	<b>CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT</b>	<b>HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR</b>	<b>NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT</b>	<b>RATE</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL FEE</b>				
TOTAL CLAIMS	19 -	20 =	0 x	\$18.00	\$0.00				
INDEP. CLAIMS	1 -	3 =	0 x	\$86.00	\$0.00				
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00				
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>				
<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment.</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0591</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.</div>									
<div> Signature</div> <p><b>Jonathan P. Osha, Reg. No. 33,986</b> <b>OSHA &amp; MAY L.L.P.</b> <b>1221 McKinney Street, Suite 2800</b> <b>Houston, Texas 77010</b> <b>Telephone: 713/228-8600</b> <b>Facsimile: 713/228-8778</b></p>			<div>Dated: 7/6/04</div> <div><table border="1"><tr><td>I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on _____ with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</td></tr><tr><td>Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</td></tr><tr><td>Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</td></tr></table></div>				I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on _____ with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence	Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence
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